

OMNE VOLLEYBALL REFEREE NETWORK

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NHSOA CLINICS

We changed the timing of the NHSOA clinics this year. Instead of holding them in the summer in conjunction with high school team camps that were held usually mid-week, we decided to try to hold the clinics with pre-season scrimmages. We are very grateful to the teams and schools that worked with us in this endeavor. I think it's going to be a great start to the season.

The first clinic is coming up in Battle Creek Friday Aug 21, starting at 4:30 pm. There are over 20 referees registered for the Battle Creek clinic. If you haven't registered yet, but are thinking about it, just contact Ashton at the NSAA office. I'm sure we can fit you in.

At most clinics, we will start with a short classroom session to go over more in depth some of the new rules. In addition, we will discuss any test questions that you struggled with. Everyone should wear their uniform for the on-court training sessions.

Then we will go into the gym and officiate for the team's pre-season scrimmage. Everyone will get the chance to blow their whistle and 'get the rust off' for the upcoming season. Here we will offer some constructive advice about how to be a better official.

August 21 – Battle Creek	4:30-5:30pm	On-Court Training	5:30-6:30pm	Classroom Instruction
August 24 – Alliance	4:00-5:30pm	Classroom Instruction	5:30-6:30pm	On-Court Training
August 25 - Alma	4:00-5:30pm	Classroom Instruction	5:30-6:30pm	On-Court Training
August 26 – Omaha Westside	4:00-5:30pm	Classroom Instruction	5:30-6:30pm	On-Court Training
August 27 – St. Paul	4:00-5:30pm	Classroom Instruction	5:30-6:30pm	On-Court Training
August 28 – Lincoln Northeast	4:00-5:30pm	Classroom Instruction	5:30-6:30pm	On-Court Training

SELECTION TO WORK STATE VOLLEYBALL

I get asked quite often what does it take to be considered to be selected as a state hs volleyball championship official? Attendance at an NHSOA clinic is not mandatory(as it is in some other sports), but it is highly encouraged. Here are some other factors:

1. **You must grow with the game.** Many rules and techniques change each year. If playing techniques change, we must stay current with those changes.
2. **You must be able to keep up with the increased speed of the game.** Many players are going to camps in the off season and are learning new skills that enhance their athletic abilities. As officials, we should not keep the players from using their newly found techniques.
3. **You must apply rules accurately.** An official must demonstrate accurate judgement and decisiveness. They should be able to anticipate game situations Above all a state championship official must proficient at understanding back row attack/block violations.

4. **An official must display professionalism at all times.** An official should avoid excessive fraternization with players, coaches and spectators. An official should be confident, approachable, and maintain a businesslike, fair demeanor.

That is just a short synopsis of what is considered for a championship official. You will become much more proficient at these tasks by attending NHSOA clinics, but again attendance is not mandatory.

NSAA ONLINE RULES MEETINGS

You only have one day left to view the online mandatory rules meeting for FREE. Make sure you've watched the video before midnight tonight Aug 18.

Viewing the online rules meeting is mandatory for an official registering in a sport. Any official who does not view the online pre-season rules meeting shall not be allowed to complete registration and shall not be eligible to officiate varsity contests.

The NSAA will offer free online rules meetings for a limited time period.

Free – July 27 – Aug 19

\$25 – Aug 20 – Aug 25

\$50 – Aug 26 – Aug 28

During the two week “no charge” period, head coaches, judges and officials will be able to login to the NSAA website by using a passcode to access the required rules meeting. Failure to complete the online rules meeting will prevent officials from completing the registration process and thus, officiating varsity contests.

NSAA TESTS FOR OFFICIALS

The NSAA sponsors two National Federation tests in each sport – the Part 1 and Part 2 tests. All officials must complete the Part 1 test online. **Test answers must be entered online by Friday Aug 28.**

It is advisable to all officials take the Part 2 (closed book) test every year. It is only required every couple of years depending upon your level of certification. But, since the test is on-line now (24 hours a day) for one week, everyone should take the opportunity to stay current with the rules. And if you take it more than when you have to, you might not experience so much ‘test anxiety’. You will more comfortable with the wording of the questions, etc. Further information about when you NEED to take the test is in the Officials Manual that can be found on the NSAA website (nsaahome.org) under the Officials tab.

ENTER YOUR VARSITY SCHEDULE on www.nsaahome.org

You no longer have to state how many varsity matches you worked the previous year when you register. The only way your varsity matches are tracked is if you enter them on the NSAA website. In order to advance in certification level, an official must have worked at least 4 varsity matches in the previous year. For more information about this policy, please read the officials manual on the NSAA website. As soon as assignments are completed, you can do this. If you do not enter your varsity schedule this year, you will not be able to do it next year when you register and none of your varsity matches will be counted.

NSAA OFFICIALS MANUAL

Warm-up protocol and other information regarding high school matches can be found in the NSAA Officials Manual. The manual can be printed from the NSAA website. Go to the NSAA website at www.nsaahome.org – click on the Officials tab (toward the far right of the upper menu). The 2015-2016 Officials Manual is the top listing on the left side.